

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

Sept. 17, 1987

Dr. Hector Garcia
American GI Forum of the U.S.
1315 Bright Street
Corpus Christi, Texas 78405

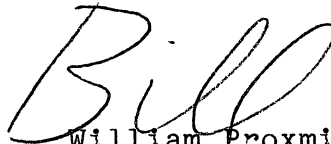
Dear Dr. Garcia:

It was good to hear from you. I appreciate your taking the time and effort to let me know of your support for a constitutional amendment making English the official language of our nation. I am extremely sympathetic to the arguments raised in favor of this proposal.

While I do not serve on the Senate Judiciary Committee which has jurisdiction over this issue, you can be certain I will keep your comments in mind and give this constitutional amendment my closest attention when it comes before the Senate.

Best wishes.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Bill".

William Proxmire, U.S.S.

WP:ms

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510

September 17, 1987

Dr. Hector P. Garcia
1315 Bright Street
Corpus Christi, Texas 78405

Dear Dr. Garcia:

I genuinely appreciate your comment about the nomination of Judge Robert H. Bork to be an Associate Justice of the Supreme Court. In my judgment, the President's choice is a good one and I shall support the Bork nomination.

Judge Bork has a distinguished record: He has been a member of the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve, a lawyer in private practice, a professor at Yale Law School, Solicitor General of the United States, and a judge on the U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia. The Senate confirmed him unanimously for the circuit court bench on February 8, 1982. By any objective standard, he is eminently qualified for service on the Supreme Court.

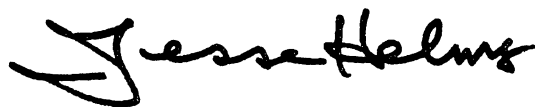
Equally important, in my opinion, Judge Bork understands the role that the framers of the Constitution had in mind for the federal judiciary. Federal courts were not established to hamstring the police, free hardened criminals, usurp congressional and state powers, or act as social engineers for liberalism. Yet that is what the courts have done repeatedly over the past 25 years.

Ironically, the lack of law and order in American society today is largely the result of federal judges who sought power for themselves instead of upholding the law. By elevating Judge Bork to the Supreme Court, President Reagan has made another important step in reestablishing a law-abiding federal judiciary.

Dr. Hector P. Garcia
September 17, 1987
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Kindest regards.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jesse Helms". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized initial "J".

Jesse Helms
United States Senate

JH/asi

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510

September 17, 1987

Dr. Hector P. Garcia
Founder
American GI Forum of the US
1315 Bright Street
Corpus Christi, Texas 78405

Dear Dr. Garcia:

Thank you for your letter stating your support of S.J. Resolution 13, the English Language Amendment, making English the official national language. I have received a variety of letters on this topic.

Opponents of the English Language Amendment in its current form look at the vague language of the bill and point at potential threats to valued goals: bilingual education, a fair election process, fair court proceedings, minority rights, and even maintainance of national respect towards the multitude of cultural heritages in the United States.

However, those who share your convictions point to national unity and pride, which are also valued and worthwhile goals. I am aware of the problems other countries, such as Canada and Belgium, have with multiple languages. I also recognize the efforts being made to avoid similar rifts in the United States. Setting English apart as the official national language is one such effort.

Currently, S.J. Resolution 13 is pending before the Committee on the Judiciary. Recognizing that this legislation carries great impact as a Constitutional Amendment, I will be following the debate on this bill very closely in the coming months. Should this issue come to the Senate floor, I will certainly keep your views in mind.

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Thank you again for sharing your opinions with me. If I can ever be of assistance, please do not hesitate to call on me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Harry Reid". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a large initial "H" and "R".

Harry Reid
United States Senator

HMR/rd

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510

September 21, 1987

Dr. Hector P. Garcia
Founder
American G. I. Forum
1315 Bright Street
Corpus Christi, Texas 78405

Dear Dr. Garcia:

I appreciate hearing from you and welcome the opportunity to respond to your comments.

As you know, on July 1, 1987, President Reagan nominated Robert H. Bork to replace retiring Supreme Court Justice Lewis Powell. The Judiciary Committee began hearings on the nomination September 15th. I expect the nomination to reach the Senate floor in early October.

There are very strong feelings on both sides of the issue of whether Judge Bork should be confirmed by the Senate and my decision will be a difficult one. However, while I will certainly keep your views in mind, I will not make any judgments on Judge Bork's qualifications until all available information is before the Senate.

With kindest regards,

Sincerely,


Lowell Weicker, Jr.
United States Senator

LW/sss

United States Senate
WASHINGTON, DC 20510

September 21, 1987

Dr. Hector P. Garcia
Founder
American G.I. Forum of the U.S.
1315 Bright Street
Corpus Christi, Texas 78405

Dear Hector:

Thank you for your recent letter and for taking the time to send me copies of the resolutions adopted by the American G.I. Forum of the U.S.

I appreciate knowing of your opposition to an amendment to the Constitution that would make English the official language of the United States. You are correct that such an amendment could have profound effects on bilingual education and ballots. As you know, S.J.Res. 13, which would propose an English language amendment, is currently pending before the Senate Committee on the Judiciary. As always, you may be confident that knowing of your opposition to this measure will be helpful to me should the full Senate consider this legislation.

I also understand your deep concern about President Reagan's nomination of Judge Bork to fill the vacancy on the U.S. Supreme Court created by the retirement of Justice Lewis Powell.

Certainly no one questions Judge Bork's academic and legal credentials, but that is not the only question. It is his philosophy that troubles many people. For example, I voted against the poll tax when I was in the U.S. House of Representatives some 35 years ago. I have long believed that it was an unfair restriction on our right to vote, one of our most precious rights. I am troubled by reports that as recently as two years ago Judge Bork disagreed publicly with a 1966 Supreme Court decision outlawing the poll tax.

I have not decided how I will vote on Judge Bork's nomination to the highest court in the land and do not expect to decide until all the evidence is available. I will follow the confirmation proceedings closely and analyze them carefully. I want to know more about his views on issues like abolition of the poll tax.

Hector, it was great to hear from you. Let's keep in touch on this and other issues of mutual concern.

Sincerely,



Lloyd Bentsen

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510

September 23, 1987

Dr. Hector Garcia
1315 Bright Street
Corpus Christi, Texas 78405

Dear Dr. Garcia:

Thank you for contacting me. I greatly appreciate having the benefit of your views. While I deeply value the input of my constituents from Iowa, letters from concerned citizens such as yourself from all over the country offer an additional perspective and enhance the legislative process.

I hope you will continue to keep me informed of your views on matters of importance to you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tom". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Tom Harkin
United States Senator

TH/gl

FRANK R. LAUTENBERG
NEW JERSEY

COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND
PUBLIC WORKS

COMMITTEE ON THE BUDGET

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510

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(201)342-0936

September 29, 1987

Dr. Hector P. Garcia
American G.I. Forum of the United States
1315 Bright Street
Corpus Christi, Texas 78405

Dear Dr. Garcia:

Thank you for contacting me to express your support for the nomination of Judge Robert Bork to be an Associate Justice of the United States.

As you may know, the Senate Judiciary Committee, which has initial jurisdiction in the Senate for the review of judicial nominations, is in the process of holding hearings on Judge Bork's nomination.

I view my responsibility to advise and consent to judicial nominations, particularly those to the Supreme Court, as one of my most important duties. While many questions have been raised about Judge Bork's qualifications and views, his supporters have emphasized his strong intellect and professional credentials. Please be assured that I will give my close attention to the hearings on Judge Bork before proceeding to vote on the nomination.

I hope you will continue to contact me on issues of concern to you. Having the benefit of your view is important to me.

Sincerely,



FRL:jk